

'After Empire? Rethinking the *Post* in the Postcolonial.'

A Conference at the Institute for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies
University of Leeds

Friday, 26 September, 2008

Leeds Humanities Research Institute

For historians, watersheds are an inescapable tool. To think in terms of continuity and change, scholars cannot help but look for ruptures and breaks, turning points and defining moments. But a timeframe demands a beginning and an end. The validity of origins or beginnings has now been challenged. But what of 'end'?

This conference will provide a space in which to critically rethink the notion of an 'end' of empire. Just how meaningful is it to separate historical time into colonial and postcolonial chapters? And more importantly, how meaningful might it be to think without them? This is not simply to repeat the neo-colonial refrain. Rather, our intention is to reappraise what colonialism was, how it was undone, the forms in which it may have continued to exist and ways by which it may be challenged once more.

We are looking for papers from across the arts and social sciences that deal with the question of an end to empire. Topics might include:

- Decolonisation
- Memory and Nostalgia
- Migration and Diaspora
- Racism and Antiracism
- Protest and Resistance
- Nationalism and Transnationalism
- Globalisation and Hybridity

Papers from postgraduate researchers are especially welcome. Please send 250 word proposals for 20-30 minute papers to Ed Kirby E.N.Kirby@leeds.ac.uk by July 1 2008

Institute for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk/icps/news.htm>